INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

No. 1401 — Washington, D. C. — August 23, 1952

Sam Gorsline

S. G. ("Sam") Gorsline, 67, one of the best known figures in the canning trade, who has been secretary of the Canning Machinery & Supplies Association for the past 23 years, died at noon, August 22, in a Battle Creek, Mich., hospital, following the last of several recent operations.

Sam had been gamely fighting serious illness since the last Convention, and had in fact planned to attend a meeting of the C.M.&S.A. board of directors next week. The board members, instead, will attend his funeral, scheduled for 3:30 p. m., Monday, August 25, at the First Presbyterian Church, Battle Creek, and hold their business meeting at Battle Creek on Tuesday, instead of in Rochester, N. Y., as originally scheduled.

In lieu of floral tributes, the family requests that contributions be made to the S. G. Gorsline Memorial Fund, c/o S. C. Coleman, Security Arcade, Battle Creek, Mich.

The canning machinery and supply fraternity wrote a fitting testimonial to "Sam" back in 1947, stating, "Important to us as are your ability, justice, experience, and judgment of human nature, there must always tower above these attributes your keen sense of humor—your ability to immediately change the tempo in a moment of tension and restore sanity with a flash of mirth."

His career has kept him in the food business almost constantly since his birth on a Michigan farm April 19, 1885. After high school he taught school briefly, then clerked a short time in the post office. Then he worked in the central west as a salesman successively in cereals, crackers, tea, and dried fruit machinery. He came into his permanent affiliation with the canning trade when he joined Anderson Barngrover, an important part of the Food Machinery Corporation, at their Chicago office in 1922. In 1938 he joined American Can Company at Maywood, Ill., and in 1931 became Secretary of C.M.&S.A. from which point he built the career that has made him known to all facets of this indus-

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Stable Price and Strong Supply Situation Prevails for Canned Fruits and Vegetables

The BLS retail price index for canned fruits and vegetabes on July 15—at 162.4 percent of the prewar base—is the second lowest in 18 months. During that period, the retail price index for canned fruits and vegetables was lower only in June of this year. The July index was 1.3 points below the index for May, 1952.

BLS Retail Price Indexes

1935-39=100

Commodity	June 15, 1952	July 15, 1952	Change
Cost of living	189.6	190.8	+ 1.2
All foods	231.5	234.9	+ 3.4
Beverages	346.5	346.4	— 0.1
Fresh fruits and vegetables	278.1	283.0	+ 4.9
Meats and poultry	270.6	270.4	— 0.2
Dried fruits and vegetables	237.1	238.9	+ 1.8
Dairy products	209.8	212.3	+ 2.5
Eggs	169.1	208.7	+39.6
Bakery products	193.3	194.4	+ 1.1
Sugar and sweets	187.7	188.9	+ 1.2
Canned fruits and vegetables	162.3	162.4	+ 0.1
Fats and oils	140.1	140.6	+ 0.5

Retail prices of canned fruits and vegetables in July of this year were more than 4.5 percent below canned fruit and vegetable prices a year earlier, while the cost of living was almost 3 percent above a year ago.

On a quarterly basis, the official BLS index of retail prices of canned fruits and vegetables declined during the second quarter of 1952 to 163.2—

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NPA Says Loss in Perishable Food Pack Has Been Averted

Directives on tin plate issued by the National Production Authority and cooperation of the tin plate industry and can manufacturers following resumption of steel production have prevented any considerable loss in the perishable food pack.

This was agreed to generally by government and industry representatives last week at a meeting of the NPA Tin Plate Industry Advisory Committee.

In requesting removal of distribution directives on tin plate, the tin plate committee said that cans for the perishable food pack can be supplied henceforth without further need for directives. On August 15, NPA revoked telegraphic instructions which had ordered steel mills to make all

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BAE Forecasts Stable Prices For Canned Vegetables

Retail prices of canned vegetables are expected to remain at about current levels, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

In its August 22 issue of *The Vegetable Situation*, BAE states:

"With stocks of canned vegetables generally larger than a year ago, and with adequate production now in prospect, prices of canned vegetables at retail are expected to remain at about current levels. Average retail prices in leading cities of the United States in June as reported by the BLS were higher than a year earlier for canned corn, but somewhat lower for canned green peas and canned tomatoes."

Of prices to growers, BAE said:

"The Department makes no official estimate of prices paid farmers for processing crops until December. A few reports on price plus acreage changes imply that average prices paid producers for processing crops this year will average lower than last year for tomatoes in the West, spinach, and green lima beans. Higher average prices seem likely for sweet corn, cucumbers for pickles, tomatoes in the East and possibly cabbage for kraut.

"These price indications may change because, among other reasons, processors buy some of their products from the fresh market where prices are influenced by current demand and supply conditions."

BAE said that prices received by farmers for fresh market crops this year are expected to average moderately higher than in 1951, because of generally smaller production and continued strong demand.

BAE also stated:

"Recent amendments to the Defense Production Act prohibited price ceil-

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FOREIGN TRADE

Escape Clause Action on Figs

The President on August 16 approved the recommendation of the Tariff Commission that the tariff on dried figs be increased in order to prevent serious injury to the domestic industry, and ordered the tariff on dried figs raised from 2½ to 4½ cents a pound, effective August 29.

The Tariff Commission found in its investigation that as a result in part of the tariff concessions granted at Annecy and Torquay, dried figs are being imported in such increased quantities, both actual and relative, as to cause serious injury and to threaten continuance of such injury to the domestic industry.

Under the escape clause contained in Section 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951 (see INFORMATION LETTER of June 30, 1951, page 255), the Tariff Commission has recommended tariff increases, successively, on garlic, watches, and dried figs, to protect domestic producers. This is the first time that the President has approved the escape clause action recommended by the Commission under Section 7.

Japan Applies for GATT

Japan has applied for membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the international body which negotiates tariffs and other foreign trade rules for its members. The application will be considered at the next session of GATT on October 2.

Significance of Japan's application is that the tariff rate on each commodity is negotiated with the member of GATT which is principal supplier of that commodity; and as a member of GATT Japan would be enabled to take part in trade agreement negotiations and seek reductions in United States tariffs on canned pork and beans and baked beans, as well as a number of canned fish products, of which she doubtless would be formally recognized as principal supplier.

Meat Products for Brazil

Shipments of meat products to Brazil must be accompanied by official sanitary certificates issued in the country of origin and must be labeled in prescribed manner, according to the August 4 issue of *Foreign Commerce Weekly*, official publication of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Sam Gorsline

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try. Year after year, as manager of the Convention exhibit, Sam built larger and more efficient shows, until his prowess attracted recognition by the national association of exhibit managers, in which he was given important offices and committee posts. In his buildup of the Canning Machinery Exhibit, Sam originated and successfully handled arrangements for special trains, door prizes, top-flight Convention entertainment shows, and the annual C.M.&S.A. Dinner Dance.

He was a prominent Rotarian and was known also as the founder of the canning industry's Old Guard Society, which he built from a membership of 46 in 1929 to more than 900. At the last Convention in Atlantic City, the Old Guard Society voted him their lifetime Secretary Emeritus.

PROCUREMENT

Orange Juice for USDA

The U. S. Department of Agriculture on August 21 announced that offers have been accepted for 92,300 cases of 46-ounce cans of concentrated (3-to-1) orange juice at prices ranging from $9.30 to $9.45 a case. The concentrate will be delivered to school lunch programs.

Purchases were made with Section 32 funds from three processors in California.

Invitations for Bids

Quartermaster Purchasing Offices—111 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.; 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif.

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration, Wash. 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act will apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is $10,000 or over.

The QMC has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

FRUIT PRESERVES—quantities of apricot, blackberry, cherry, grape, peach, pineapple, and raspberry jams in 2-lb. jars and No. 10 cans. Bids due in Chicago under QM-11-009-53-71 by Sept. 4.

FRUIT JELLIES—quantities of apple, apple-blackberry, apple-cherry, apple-elderberry, apple-raspberry, apple-strawberry, crabapple, currant, grape, and quince jellies in 2-lb. jars and No. 10 cans. Bids due in Chicago under QM-11-009-53-72 by Sept. 4.

SUPPLIES

1951 Cuban Sugar Production

The grinding of sugarcane in Cuba for the 1951-52 season came to an end about August 1 and resulted in a total output of 7,964,000 short tons of raw sugar, a new all-time high for Cuba, according to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, USDA.

The 1951 crop exceeded by a wide margin the previous record high of 6,675,000 short tons set in 1947-48 and compares with 6,348,000 short tons produced in 1950-51. A combination of an increased acreage harvested and relatively high yields of cane per acre accounted for the large crop this season, according to OFAR.

Can Supply Situation

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tin plate available exclusively for cans for perishables.

Direction 4 to M-25, issued June 30 and amended July 18, which suspended can material specifications for perishable foods listed in Schedule I of M-25, remains in effect (see INFORMATION LETTERS of July 3, page 211, and July 26, page 225).

NPA told the Tin Plate Industry Advisory Committee that (1) the outlook for tin is better than it has been for a long time, (2) the foreign purchases by the government are being delivered on or ahead of schedule, and (3) the recent reopening of the foreign market to private purchasers was expected to have a further stimulating effect on the tin supply situation.

RAW PRODUCTS

Growing of Sweet Corn

Information on the commercial growing of sweet corn is presented in a new farmers' bulletin, *Commercial Growing of Sweet Corn* (F. 2042), issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The bulletin covers the usual steps in growing and marketing, as well as information on chemical weed killers, mechanical picking, and the development of new hybrids. Copies of the bulletin may be obtained upon request to the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

DEFENSE

Tin Secondaries Decontrolled

The National Production Authority has removed restrictions on the use of certain tin secondaries. However, NPA said, removal of end-use restrictions on these materials is not expected to have any effect on the production of sanitary cans for perishable foods.

Amendment 1 to M-24, governing use of tin plate and terne plate, removes restrictions on certain secondaries so as to permit their use in such items as buckles, buttons, souvenirs, toys and games.

Amendment 1 to M-25, the can order, adds the following tin secondaries to those already listed in Section 9(b)(1):

Mill accumulation plate.
Unassorted temper tin plate.
Unmended menders.

thus permitting use of cans or parts of cans made entirely of these materials without regard to can specifications or quantity limitations in the order.

PUBLICITY

New Notes in Cooking

Canned foods are the subject of the entire August 15 issue of *New Notes in Cooking*, an eight-page leaflet featuring outstanding recipes, published by the Amino Products Division of the International Minerals & Chemical Corp., manufacturer of Ac'cent.

The leaflet is published monthly, alternately "From the West" with Emily Chase as editor and "From the East" with Joan Rock as editor. Both are consultants well known as writers and for their special knowledge of quality foods.

The August 15 issue, "From the West," is devoted entirely to canned foods, under the heading "Simple Arithmetic for Cooks—A Lesson in Addition with Canned Foods." Miss Chase includes 17 recipes under the following headings:

Lesson 1: "Appetizers" features canned mushrooms, Vienna sausage, shrimp, and tuna.

Lesson 2: "Salads" uses canned mixed vegetables, tomato aspic, celery hearts, and anchovy fillets.

Lesson 3: "Main Dishes" includes the following canned foods: corned beef hash, chopped ham or pork luncheon meat, asparagus tips, Spanish rice, chili con carne, spaghetti in tomato sauce, egg noodles and chicken or turkey, or egg noodle giblet dinner, boned chicken or turkey, peas, whole kernel corn, mushroom stems and pieces, pimientos, tomato sauce, tamales, cream style corn, and ripe olives.

Lesson 4: "Side Dishes" uses canned spinach, green lima beans, macaroni with cheese sauce, crab meat, tuna, shrimp, and green beans.

Lesson 5: "Desserts" features canned peaches and crushed pineapple.

The leaflet has a large mailing list and is sent to food editors, business home economists, and many others who are writers or broadcasters in the field of foods.

STATISTICS

Canned Fruit and Vegetable Stocks and Shipments

Reports on canners' stocks and shipments of canned apples, apple sauce, green lima beans, and sweet corn have been compiled by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics, and detailed reports have been mailed to all canners packing these items.

Canned Apple Stocks and Shipments

	1951–52 (basis 8/10)
Carryover, Aug. 1	1,033,263
Pack	3,388,249
Total supply	5,341,512
Stocks, Aug. 1	1,279,639
Shipments during July	268,935
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Aug. 1	4,061,873

Apple Sauce Stocks and Shipments

	1951–52 (actual cases)
Carryover, Aug. 1	3,497,080
Pack	9,380,851
Total supply	12,877,940
Stocks, Aug. 1	1,474,554
Shipments during July	886,534
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Aug. 1	11,403,386

Lima Bean Stocks and Shipments

	1950–51	1951–52 (actual cases)
Carryover, Aug. 1	1,069,265	707,447
Pack	3,591,173	3,278,361
Total supply	4,660,438	3,985,808
Stocks, Aug. 1	707,447	727,753
Shipments, May 1 to Aug. 1.	665,322	567,762
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Aug. 1.	3,952,991	3,258,055

Sweet Corn Stocks and Shipments

	1950–51	1951–52 (actual cases)
Carryover, Aug. 1	6,466,680	373,375
Pack	21,645,243	30,188,540
Total Supply	28,111,923	30,561,915
Stocks, Aug. 1	373,375	427,729
Shipments during July	352,350	495,697
Shipments, Aug. 1 to Aug. 1	27,738,548	30,134,186

Prices for Canned Vegetables

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ings on fresh and processed vegetables. Crop prospects and generally large stocks of canned and frozen vegetables are expected to work against any large upsurge in prices for these commodities."

Dry Beans and Peas

The prospective dry edible bean crop is 9 percent below the 1951 crop and the smallest since 1945, according to BAE. Although prices for dry beans are expected to rise, continued strong demand and a high rate of consumption probably will reduce carryover stocks to about minimum levels by the end of the 1952 crop marketing season.

August 1 conditions indicated a national average yield of dry beans per acre this year second only to the record of last year. Probable harvested acreage was placed at 1,317,000 acres, only 4 percent under the planted acreage, while abandonment last year was 7 percent of planted acreage.

A price support program will be available again this year. However, BAE said, the prospective supply situation indicates that little support activity will be required.

A one-fourth drop from last year in acreage of dry field peas and a slight drop in yields indicate this year's crop at 28 percent below the 1951 crop. Prices for dry peas of the 1952 crop probably will be at least moderately higher than those of a year earlier, according to BAE.

1952 Cranberry Production

Cranberry production for 1952 is forecast at 908,200 barrels, slightly less than the 1951 crop but 18 percent above average, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Larger crops than last year are expected for New Jersey, Wisconsin, and Oregon, but smaller for Massachusetts and Washington.

Following is the production of cranberries indicated as of August 15, with comparisons:

State	1941-50 ave.	1951	1952 Ind.
	(barrels)		
Massachusetts	497,600	560,000	520,000
New Jersey	76,700	76,000	90,000
Wisconsin	147,100	196,000	225,000
Washington	35,880	57,500	48,700
Oregon	12,380	20,800	24,500
Total 5 states	769,660	910,300	908,200

Price and Supply Situation

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a drop of 0.4 points from the first quarter average. The cost of living index, on the other hand, stood at 189.1 for the second quarter of 1952—0.8 points above the first quarter average and the highest of record.

BLS Wholesale Price Indexes

1947–49=100

Commodity	June 15, 1952	July 15, 1952	Change
All commodities	111.2	111.8	+ 0.6
Farm products	107.2	110.2	+ 3.0
Processed foods	108.5	110.0	+ 1.5
Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables	103.5	103.9	+ 0.4
Canned fruits and juices	102.8	103.7	+ 0.9
Canned vegetables and soups	105.6	105.9	+ 0.3
Canned fish	99.4	96.8	— 2.6
Frozen fruits and juices	87.1	86.2	— 0.9
Frozen vegetables	91.8	91.8	....

Of 12 canned vegetables and soups for which BLS computes and publishes separate wholesale price indexes, only 3 rose from June to July. Wholesale prices of the other 9 items remained at June levels.

Of 10 canned fruits and juices for which separate wholesale price indexes are published, only 2 rose, while 1 decreased below the June level. The wholesale prices of the other 7 items remained at June levels.

Canners' Prices

A study by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics of all available mid-August price records in trade journals reveal the following situation with respect to canned fruits and vegetables since June 30, the last day of price controls for these items:

Of a total of 145 different canned fruit and vegetable items, 43 percent of the items showed no change and another 25 percent actually showed a decrease in price from June 30 to August 15; the remaining 32 percent increased in price. Hence over two-thirds (68 percent) of all canned fruit and vegetable items studied showed either no change or a decrease in price during this 45-day period. For the canned vegetable items here is the summary: 45 percent showed no change, 17 percent decreased, 38 increased.

The price changes that occurred in canned fruits are characteristic of what occurs in the canning industry when there is a strong supply situation as prevails today. From June 30 to August 15 almost one-half (47 percent) of all canned fruit items studied actually decreased in price, another 36 percent showed no change during this period, making a total of 83 percent of all canned fruit items that showed either no change or a decrease. Only 17 percent of the fruit items increased in price—a negligible quantity compared with the decrease of 47 percent of the items which included many of the large volume items.

It was because of the fact that canned fruits and vegetables had been consistently selling well below OPS ceilings that the Congress decided, effective July 1, to free these products from price controls. The situation that led to this decision seven weeks ago still prevails today. On August 15 the prices that canners were receiving for their canned fruit and vegetables averaged 7 percent below the ceiling prices that were in existence on June 30. For individual commodities the canners average selling prices varied from 4 to 14 percent below ceilings. None showed average prices that touched the ceiling.

Supply Situation

Despite an anticipated 1952 pack of canned fruits and vegetables of 16 percent less than last year's all-time record pack, the total supply will be only about 6 percent less than last year's record. This is true because of the record carryover from 1951 packs.

Carryover stocks (canners' and distributors') of canned fruits and vegetables this year are 36 percent greater than the carryover that existed a year ago (29 percent greater carryover for canned fruits and 42 percent greater for canned vegetables). The total supply this coming year will be 8 percent above the average annual supply of canned fruits and vegetables during the pre-Korea period of 1948-50. This quantity will meet the constantly increasing demand for canned foods. It will provide a per capita quantity one-sixth more than prewar consumption and approximately 3 percent more per capita supply than was available during the pre-Korea period.

DEATH

A. E. Coddington

A. E. Coddington, 64, president of Coddington Packing Company, Inc., Indianapolis, died August 17 following a long illness.

Mr. Coddington had been associated with the canned foods industry for 48 years, first as a wholesale grocer, later as a broker, and then as sales manager for the Ladoga Canning Company from 1929 to 1945, when he organized his own firm.

Mr. Coddington served two terms on the N.C.A. Board of Directors, 1938-40 and 1944-46, was a member of the War Council in 1942, a member of the Labeling Committee, 1940-45, and active in the Dry Bean Section. He also was a past president of the Indiana Canners Association.

Survivors are the widow, one son, A. E. Coddington, Jr., who is active in the canning business, and a daughter, Martha.

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